

Harnessing of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for Lighting purpose

1799. DR. VISWANATHAM KANNITHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to harness non-conventional energy sources for lighting purpose in the far flung hamlets and groups of houses in Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) Solar Photovoltaic systems have already been installed for street lighting in 56 unelectrified villages and hamlets of Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh. There is no further proposal for such installation in this district.

[Translation]

Bridge at Patna

1800. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey for the construction of railway bridge over the river Ganga in Patna;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to start the work on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The cost of the project has been assessed as Rs. 468 crores

with a negative rate of return. The work cannot be taken up at present due to acute resource crunch.

[English]

Irregular EMU Service in Kharagpur Division

1801. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of unprecedented irregularities of Electric Multiple Unit service in Kharagpur division of South-Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) Punctuality of Electric Multiple Unit service in Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway during April, May and June 1991 averaged to 90.2, 90.3 and 87.2 respectively. A slight shortfall in punctuality in June 1991 was due to power failure and public agitation.

A close watch on running of these trains is kept.

[Translation]

Additional Ordinary Coaches in Long Distance Trains

1802. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for connecting ordinary coaches in long distance trains;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to connect ordinary coaches in such trains in order to facilitate the journey of middle class/low income group's people;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?